

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



1.9  
627928P  
1938

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
Washington, D.C.

July 16, 1938

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO LICENSED COTTON WAREHOUSEMEN  
RELATIVE TO SAMPLING AND WEIGHING OF COTTON.

- - - - -

In view of the many complaints made to the Department in the past few months the attention of all licensed warehousemen is directed to the following:

SAMPLING:

1. All sampling of cotton must be performed by samplers licensed under the Warehouse Act.
2. Every warehouseman must maintain a sufficient number of competent licensed samplers to serve patrons reasonably promptly.
3. Licensed warehousemen are expected to supervise their samplers to see that proper samples are always drawn and properly identified.
4. Under the regulations a sample must be drawn from each side of the bale in approximate equal amounts, the total sample being not less than four ounces and never more than twelve ounces.
5. Except for the first sample drawn at the time the cotton is received, a charge for the drawing of each and every sample shall be made in accordance with the amount specified for such service in the tariff. If a double sample is ordered or an extra large sample, the charge for drawing such sample should be doubled. To make any exception to this rule would constitute discrimination which is contrary to law and grounds for suspension or revocation of licenses.
6. If more than one sample is requested at the time the cotton is first received for storage, the bale shall not be weighed until after the samples are drawn.
7. Unless the tendency toward excessive sampling ceases, after a bale has been sampled three times, the Department will be obliged to require receipts to accompany requests for all additional sampling, such receipts will then be cancelled, the sample drawn, the bale reweighed and a new receipt issued on the basis of the reweight. Whether such a regulation will be made will depend entirely upon whether excessive sampling continues. Each warehouseman is urged to direct the special



attention of both his producer and shipper customers to the possibility of such a regulation.

8. All cotton must be carefully examined for condition and other defects. Each warehouseman should especially instruct his samplers in the light of Regulation 8, Secs. 3, 4, 5 and 6.

9. Persons licensed to sample are expected to be more than office men. They must at least supervise the sampling if they do not always actually do the sampling, and they must assume full responsibility for correctness of samples.

10. An accurate record should be kept of the number of samples drawn, upon whose request or order, and whether single or double samples were drawn. All orders should be filed.

WEIGHING:

11. Weighing at cotton warehouses should be performed only by weighers licensed under the Warehouse Act.

12. All weighers should examine each bale carefully for condition, especially to detect dampness, rotten cotton or any condition which might suggest deterioration of the staple or prior improper storage.

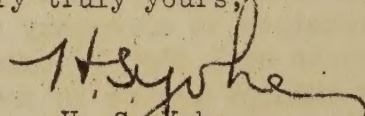
13. No bale should be weighed unless it is in storable condition. Wet or damaged cotton should be conditioned before weighing and placing in storage.

14. When requested to reweigh cotton a warehouseman is expected to actually reweigh and use reweights and not original receiving weights. For reweighing a charge may be made in accordance with the filed and published tariff.

In the light of the above each warehouseman should give careful attention to drafting his tariff in definite terms, making certain to state clearly his charges for sampling and weighing. Your tariff for the coming year should be filed as early as possible.

In this connection let me remind you that federally licensed warehousemen have a better opportunity than ever to protect their industry and to advance it in the eyes of producers, bankers, cotton shippers and government loan agencies. But they must observe in spirit the law and regulations under which they operate, otherwise they reflect adversely on the system. We count on each and every one to do his full part and to put aside little jealousies and minor competitive influences.

Very truly yours,



H. S. Tohe

In Charge, Administration  
U. S. Warehouse Act